

PATENT  
730083-2000.2**REMARKS**

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the claim rejections are requested in view of the amendments and remarks that follow.

Claims 14-25 are pending in this application, and are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 1-9, 11, 12, 14, 15 and 17 of U.S. Patent No. 6,309,345. A Terminal Disclaimer with respect to U.S. Patent No. 6,309,345 is filed herewith, obviating the rejection. The Terminal Disclaimer is filed only to expedite prosecution and does not constitute an admission or create any estoppel.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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